

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-07 FEA-01 EB-08 IO-13 /085 W

-----171419Z 115676 /47

R 171230Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO RUEHCXSECSTATE WASHDC 7761

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SA, KU

SUBJECT: KUWAITI - SAUDI BILATERAL TALKS

REF: KUWAIT 1943

1. TWO SETS OF BILATERAL TALKS GOT UNDERWAY APRIL 17 BETWEEN SAUDI AND KUWAITI OFFICIALS, ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS REPORTS. KUWAITI INTERIOR/DEFENSE MINISTER SHAIKH SA'AD AL ABDULLAH WENT TO RIYADH THE NIGHT OF APRIL 16 WITH A DELEGATION COMPOSED OF INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS AND THE KUWAITI AMBASSADOR TO SAUDI ARABIA FOR TALKS ON "ALL OUTSTANDING FRONTIER ISSUES AND OTHER POLITICAL AND SECURITY ISSUES OF MUTUAL INTEREST." THESE TALKS REPORTEDLY WILL LAST TWO DAYS.

2. ALSO, KUWAITI OIL MINISTRY UNDERSECRETARY MAHMOUD AL-ADASANI LEADS A KUWAITI DELEGATION NOW MEETING SAUDI OFFICIALS IN KHAFJI, IN THE SAUDI HALF OF THE EX-NEUTRAL ZONE. A PRESS REPORT INDICATES THAT THIS MEETING IS DEVOTED TO A BROAD RANGE OF ISSUES.

3. COMMENT: IT IS OUR GUESS THAT THE KHAFJI MEETING IS DEVOTED

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AT LEAST PARTLY TO DISCUSSIONS OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES THAT KUWAIT PROVIDES THROUGHOUT THE NOW-PARTITIONED ZONE, WHICH WE HAVE NOTED ARE LESS THAN SATISFACTORY (REFTEL). THE MEETING IN RIYADH APPEARS TO BE OF GREATER SIGNIFICANCE BUT WE ARE BY NO MEANS CLEAR ABOUT THE FULL RANGE OF ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED. OTHER REPORTING, INCLUDING EARLIER PRESS REPORTS, SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT THESE ISSUES INCLUDE A DIFFERENCE OF OPINION AS TO THE BOUNDARY BETWEEN

KUWAITI AND SAUDI ARABIAN WATERS ON THE GULF CONTINENTAL SHELF,  
WHICH IS INDEMARCATED, AND RIVAL CLAIMS TO THE TWO ISLANDS OF  
UMM AL MARADIM AND QARU, WHICH ARE OFF THE COAST OF THE ZONE.  
MAESTRONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 KUWAIT 1943  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009